Special stamps **Rhine Falls**

Turbulent experience in north Switzerland

Special stamps **Pets**

Our ever faithful companions

Special stamps **1500th anniversary of the Abbey of Saint-Maurice**

A place of spirituality since antiquity

1/2015

Focus on stamps

The Collector's Magazine

SWISS POST
Yellow in motion.

SPECIAL OFFER
for all “Focus on stamps” readers

LOGIK archive box

Black archive box for banknotes, coin sets, index cards or other collectable items up to 220 × 168 mm/ 8 2/3 × 6 2/3" (A5 landscape) in size. Flexible inner division thanks to 3 removable dividers. The high stability provides permanent protection. Metal handle with space for an identifying label. Modern design. Holds up to approx. 250 banknote sheets, 750 postcards, 450 letters, 500 stockcards, 750 index cards, coin sets and more. Overall size: 230 × 173 × 267 mm (9 × 6 3/4 × 10 1/2").

CHF 19.90

(Art. no. 345 677)

NEW

For banknote sheets

For coin sheets

For postcards, letters, etc.

Order Form please send to:

Phone 0848 66 55 44 · Fax 058 667 62 68

Post CH Ltd – Post Offices & Sales – Retail Logistics – Ostermundigenstrasse 91 – 3030 Berne

I hereby order ❑ _____ Art. no. 345 677 **CHF 19.90**

SWISS POST

Delivery only in Switzerland

Customer no.: ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Last name/First name: _____

Street/no.: _____

Postcode/City: _____

Date of birth: ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Phone/Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Method of payment (for new customers - please select **only one payment method**)
If you are already a customer, your usual method of payment will be applied.

Switzerland ❑ with invoice
❑ debit to postal account ☐☐-☐☐☐☐☐☐-☐

Credit cards

❑ American Express ❑ VISA ❑ Diners Club ❑ Eurocard/MasterCard

Credit card n-o. ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Expiry date (month/year) ☐☐☐☐

Date/Signature: _____

Dear Reader

In one of my favourite songs, the artist sings – or rather belts out – "Cos you write a story, with every step, with every word, you write some more". Once again a new year has begun and I'm pausing to recollect how long my own "story" here has been – this is already the third time I've been helping to prepare a Focus with an issue number of 1. How quickly time passes!

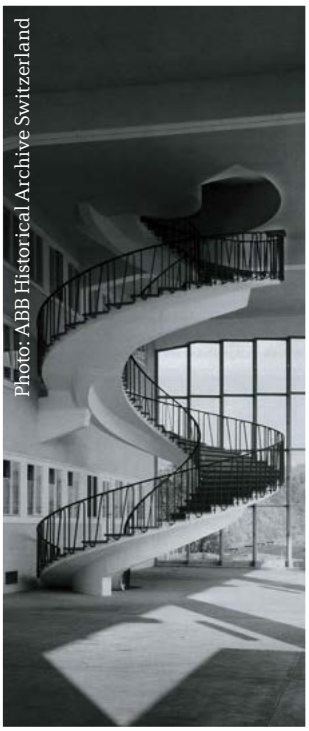
Back then, when my own particular story in the world of philately began, I had really no idea just exactly how much thought, how much effort and how much work went into each stamp. Until that point, to me stamps had simply been "mini-pictures" – some quite pretty, some less so, just a "necessary evil" if you wanted to post a letter. But the more I learned about how individual stamps came into being, the more I became interested in these mini-pictures, and especially the stories behind them. Isn't it incredible that around 50 different new stamps are issued in Switzerland every year? That's over 1,150 stamps since I've been on the planet, and over 1,150 stories to go with them.

In the coming year, too, there will of course continue to be a story for every stamp. In this issue, we kick off with a historical one: you may have heard of the battles of Morgarten and Marignano, but do you know anything about the history of the Abbey of Saint-Maurice? Or when the Romans stopped bathing in Avenches? Or that the history of the Commission for Monument Preservation is as old as that of the Federal Tax Administration? No, I didn't either. But in the course of this issue – and over the coming year – you will be able to read all about these and many other exciting stories, as always in conjunction with their "mini-pictures". I hope you enjoy them as much as I do.

Wishing you all the best in the New Year, good fortune, health and happiness, and may the stories always be fascinating.

Natascha Baumann
Focus on stamps
editorial team

Cover page: Bronze porch of the basilica of Saint-Maurice: on the interior side there are the names of 272 martyrs engraved in the scripture of their origin and their time.
Foto: Jacques Lathion



Of pets, waterfalls and heritage conservation. Some of the wide range of topics covered in this issue.

Contents

1500th anniversary of the Abbey of Saint-Maurice 4–5
Pets 6–9
Ammonite 10–11
Rhine Falls 12–14
2000th anniversary of Avenches 15
Expo Milano 2015 16–17
Centenary of the Swiss Federal Commission for Monument Preservation (FCMP) 18–19
Historical events 20–21
Centenary of the Swiss Federal Tax Administration (FTA) 22–23
Fred & Fun 24–27
Events calendar for 2015 28
Range of products 29–35

1500 years
continuous presence

A historical staging post lying in the heart of the Alps at the important intersection of the Great St Bernard Pass and the Via Francigena, the Abbey of St Maurice d'Agaune is celebrating the 1500th anniversary of its founding in the year 515. A place of spirituality and artistry which deserves to be (re)discovered!

Travellers from Lake Geneva to Valais are obliged to pass through the gorge at Saint-Maurice. Hemmed in by hills and cliffs on either side, the river Rhone, a railway line and roads are squeezed into this narrow passage. Ever since ancient times, Agaune has been a staging and customs post on the journey from Rome through the alpine passes to the north.

The decisive turning point in the history of the town was when troops of the Roman Emperor Maximian passed through in 300 A.D. The Theban Legion, which formed part of this army but came from Thebes/Luxor in Egypt, set up camp on the hillsides above the gorge. As Christians, these legionaries refused to carry out the unjust commands of the pagan Emperor. As a result, they were massacred together with their leader Mauritius. Ever since this event, Saint Maurice and his martyred comrades have been commemorated at this site.

In the year 515, new kingdoms sprang up from the ashes of the old Roman Empire. Western Switzerland – and also neighbouring parts of France – came under the rule of the Burgundians. King Sigismund of Burgundy based his rule on Christian values so he founded the Abbey of Saint-Maurice, introducing the practice of "perpetual psalmody" (laus perennis), a form of which still continues to this day.

The abbey suffered all the usual vicissitudes of history, experiencing periods of difficulty and impoverishment, but also more prosperous times. Since the 12th century, the canons have been members of the Order of St Augustine. Nowadays they devote themselves to serving in the communities of the surrounding parishes, running a secondary school in Valais, and teaching at Swiss universities, as well as being active in art and culture. Their lives, however, are still very much centred on prayer and their role as guardians of the relics and the remembrance of St Maurice.

As well as being a religious community around a basilica, the abbey is also an archaeological site and boasts important historical archives and a rich ecclesiastical treasury. Thanks to the latest museographic techniques, it can now be seen in an entirely new light in its jubilee year. Lovers of little nuggets of history will be well rewarded. The old walls veritably come to life, while the massive Romanesque bell tower stands eternal guard over the beautiful artistry of the reliquaries, symbols of the wealth of previous centuries.

The Abbey of Saint-Maurice stands as an invaluable witness of European history to the present day and it is well worth making a detour to Saint-Maurice to sample the riches of its continuous presence over 1,500 years.

Guy Luisier
Abbey of Saint-Maurice

Links to further information:
abbaye1500.ch
abbaye-stmaurice.ch

Ewer known as "Charlesmagne's ewer", mid-9th century. Treasure of the Abbey of Saint-Maurice.
Photo: Jean-Yves Glassey et Michel Martinez

Reliquary bust of Saint Candidus, about 1165. Treasure of the Abbey of Saint-Maurice.
Photo: Jean-Yves Glassey et Michel Martinez

The cool, calm cloister is a place for contemplation. Photo: Candice Lhemanne-Hasaj

Announcement of special post office
Swiss Post will be present at the monastic market in Saint-Maurice with a special post office on 22 September 2015. Further information will be published in Focus on stamps 2/15 and at www.swisspost.ch/stamps > Agenda

The mass marking the feast of Saint Mauritius follows the procession bearing the relic of Saint Mauritius. Photo: Alexandre Schafer

The archeological site of Martolet: there have been 8 churches here since the 4th century. Photo: Thomas Jantscher

Aerial photograph of the Abbey of Saint-Maurice. Photo: Filmic & Vision Air

Special stamps **1500th anniversary of the Abbey of Saint-Maurice**

Sales
Philately: From 26.2.2015 to 31.3.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 5.3.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 5.3.2015

Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamps: 33×28 mm
Sheetlet: 192×95 mm (2 rows of 4 stamps)
2 motifs on one sheetlet

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

Design
Christian Stuker, Cully (VD)

First-day cover motif

First-day cancellation

The new **cuddlesome**

Animals look at you, sometimes tenderly, sometimes pleadingly, sometimes trustingly, sometimes mischievously. Eyes are the windows to the soul. They provide glimpses of our inner life. But have you ever stopped to wonder what our beloved pets are feeling and thinking? Our new series of stamps will inspire you to do so. If animals could talk,

Man's best friend – now and forever

"Ah sorry! Did I just poke you with my wet nose there? Never mind. I'm your best friend, just like all us doggies are for you humans. We come in all shapes and sizes, from pure breeds to all sorts of Heinz 57 varieties, from Afghan hounds to Yorkshire terriers. Some of us are even famous, for example Lassie, star of 23 films; Laika the first dog in space; Nipper the terrier listening to his master's voice coming out of a gramophone; Barry the St Bernard who rescued over 40 people from an avalanche; or Snoopy the comic beagle who again and again saved the world from the Red Baron from the roof of his kennel. Actually, there's really a bit of a hero in all us pooches, just waiting for the right moment to pop out. Pardon? How we got it together with humans, you ask? Well, they were just there all of a sudden, weren't they, everywhere you went. They put down bowls of food, cast meaty bones in our direction, rewarded us with tasty dog biscuits and began to throw sticks away. We didn't want to spoil their fun, so we went off to fetch them back again. And again. And again. And you know what? We decided we liked it. Thank you! Now, how about giving me a little scratch behind the ear …."

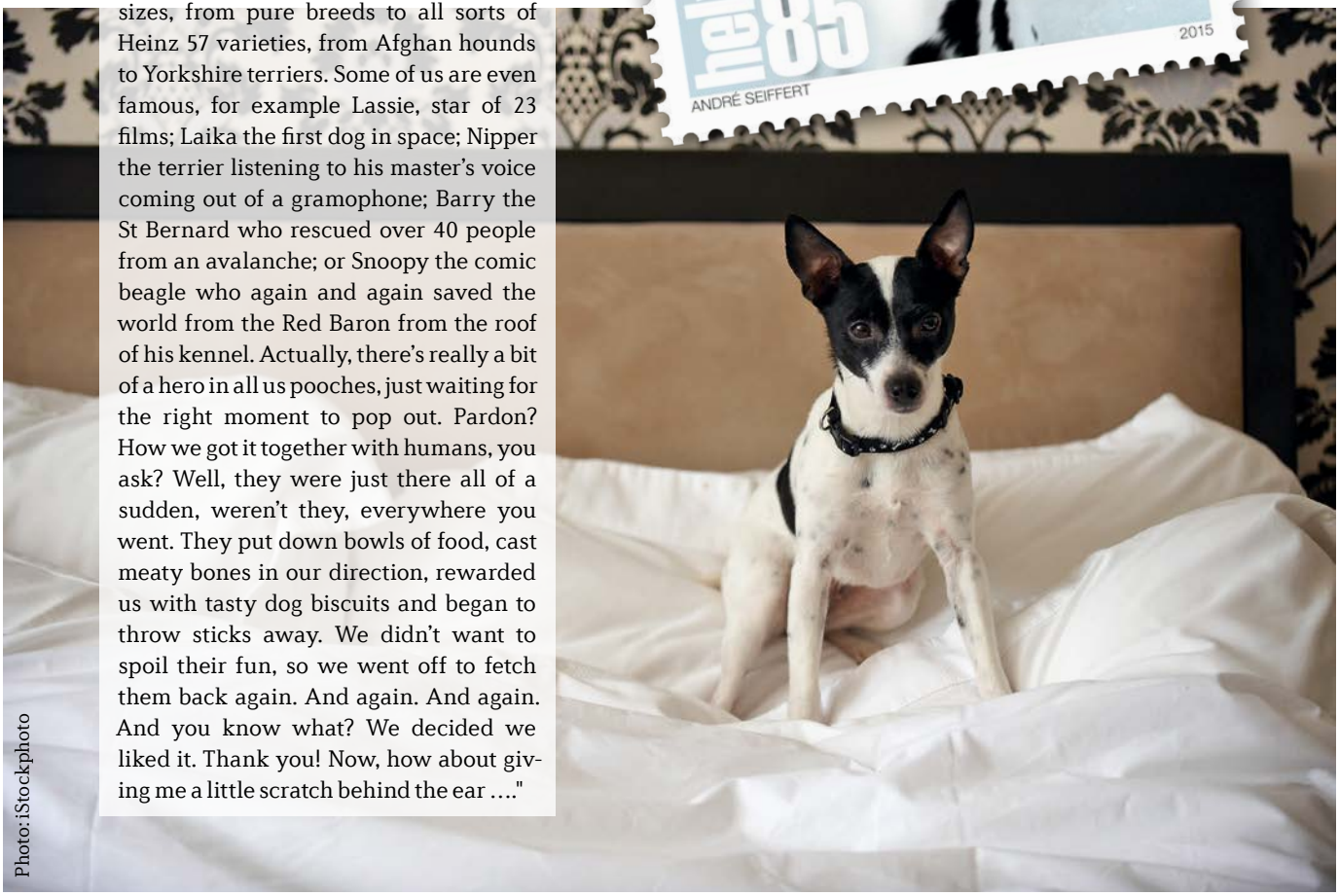


Photo: iStockphoto

stamps are here

we're tempted to say. But they already do. With gestures, vocalizations and behaviours – but most of all with their eyes. So here we present a fourfold invitation: "Now look deeply into my eyes, please …" **His Matschers Voice**

The cat that got the cream

"Cheese! That's right, you've met me before. I'm the grinning Cheshire cat from Alice in Wonderland. Or perhaps you saw me in Fritz the Cat? I was also a big hit in high boots when I helped the miller's youngest son win the fair princess. These roles were tailor-made for me. For am I not a very clever kitty? And a bit cunning and a little devious too. But that's just my nature. Acting, however, is merely one of my many talents.

I'm just as good at playing the affectionate pussycat rubbing my whiskers against your leg, offering up my chin to be tickled, arching my back, and blissfully purring to really maximize the pleasure when you stroke me. They say I have nine lives and always fall on my feet. But I certainly don't spend all my life curled up in front of a warm fire. Sometimes you'll hear my solitary miaow in the wee small hours of the night when the primeval instincts rise in me and I let myself out of the bag to patrol the neighbourhood on my velvet-silent paws. And if my little hunting trip's successful, I'll occasionally bring home a little gift for my humans too. I like to think that they love me. After all, if I'm away, the mice will definitely play, and then where would they be?"

Photo: iStockphoto

Postcard set

The set contains four different A6-size picture postcards with the motifs featured on the stamps plus four "cat" stamps. When was the last time you sent a card and surprised someone? The card set also makes a great gift!

CHF 8.–

Now where did that darn tortoise get to?

"Hippity-hop! Here I am. What's that? Sorry, can't stop to chat. But if you know the way I run, you must be pretty smart already. Albrecht Dürer painted my portrait, you know. It's now kept in a safe – to protect it from the light – in Vienna's Albertina Museum. Like my colleague the Cheshire Cat, I also rose to fame in my role as the White Rabbit in Alice in Wonderland, when I was always running around looking at my pocket watch exclaiming "I'm late!". My fans also adored me as Roger Rabbit. However, my biggest success every year is around the time of the weekend after the first spring full moon. Then I really go wild with my hen friends, painting their eggs in all sorts of colours or simmering them in a broth of onionskins, coffee dregs or spinach leaves. At the same time you'll find my visage adorning the window displays of numerous shops – as mouth-wateringly sweet brown chocolate, or even in a white form made of cocoa butter. Some people allege I'm frightened all the time, but I just don't hang around when trouble's afoot. After all, my lucky feet are the most valuable things I have. I can zip along at over 40 miles an hour if I have to. Even zig-zagging. So stick me on an envelope or a parcel and just watch me go!"

Photo: iStockphoto

Special stamps **Pets**

Sales
Philately: From 26.2.2015 to 31.3.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 5.3.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 5.3.2015

Printing
Offset printing, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands

Sizes
Stamps: 33×28 mm
Sheetlet: 195×140 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, self-adhesive, 220 gm²

Perforation
13¾:14

Design
André Seiffert, Gachnang (TG)

First-day cover motif

First-day cancellation

A nut in the cheek is worth two in the bush

"Mmm … one moment please, just have to empty my cheek pouches first. It's very impolite to speak with your mouth full, you know. What's that you're asking? What came first – hamstering or hamsters? Well, frankly, that's almost as difficult to answer as the chicken and egg question. One led to the other – and vice versa. But unfortunately humans' tendency to hoard food in times of crisis rather brought the whole activity of hamstering into disrepute – and my good name along with it. Even though hamstering things away for the future is clearly a virtue. You only have to read Jean de La Fontaine's fable of the cricket who spent the summer singing and dancing and then got hungry in winter and had to ask an ant to lend him some food to know how true that is. Oh, just how wrong people can be! Like the notion that every hamster has to have a wheel. Speaking personally, I can happily do without one. Just think about it, all that running round in circles, day in day out – who on earth likes that sort of thing? If I were a human, I tell you, I'd make sure lots of things ran more freely in this world, and a lot more straightforwardly too. Just let me out of this cage! Then I'd be up and away into the big wide world. You can be sure I'd stash lots more away for a rainy day then too."

Photo: iStockphoto

Evolution's success story
Ammonites

When collectors go scouting in the fossil-rich layers of the Swiss Jura mountains, they are usually looking for the beautiful spirally coiled ammonites. These fossils are the remains of creatures related to octopus and squid that first appeared around 400 million years ago, spread throughout the world's oceans, then died out at the same time as the dinosaurs approximately 65 million years ago.

An ammonite of the genus *Stephanoceras* with typical ribs and tubercles. Mid-Jurassic period (approx. 170 million years), Thürnen (BL). Photos: Walter Etter, Basel Natural History Museum

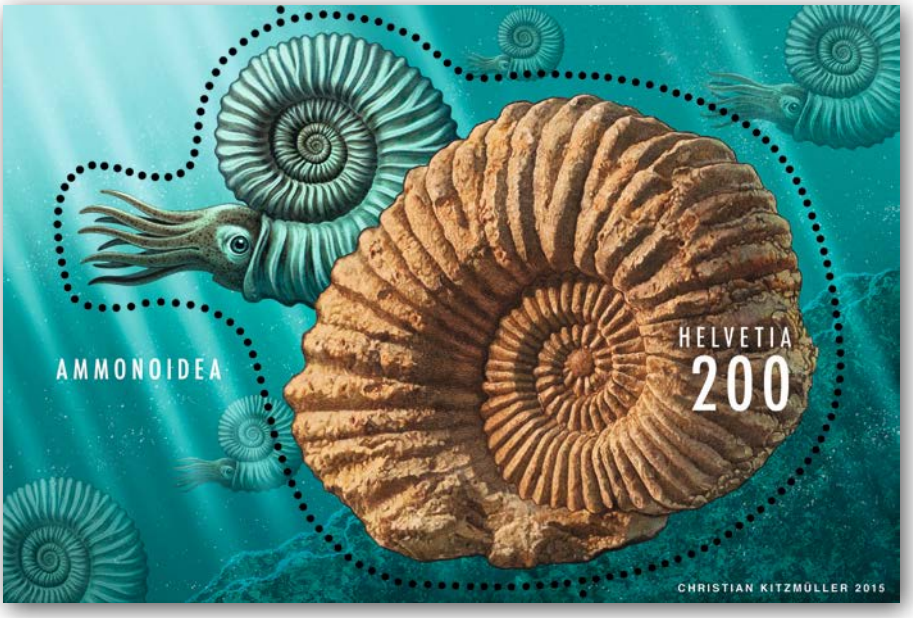
***Douvilleiceras* cut in half showing the chambered structure. Cretaceous period (approx. 110 million years), Madagascar.**

Pearly *Nautilus*. Photo: iStockphoto

Ammonites had an outer shell like a snail, but the inner part of the shell had chambers of the kind we can still see today in the living pearly *nautilus*. The shell protected the soft parts of their anatomy, while air in the chambers created buoyancy. The septa dividing the chambers were tightly folded at the edge, presumably making the shell better able to withstand water pressure. If the external shell is no longer present or is removed from an ammonite, these folds are marked by ridges known as suture lines.

We know that ammonites are more closely related to today's squid and octopus

Ammonite of the disc-shaped species *Staufenia*. The suture lines can be seen on the part where the shell is missing. Mid-Jurassic period (approx. 172 million years), Lehrte near Braunschweig, Germany.



Exclusive "Ammonite" miniature sheet with multi-level embossing and special perforation!

Swiss Post is once more offering its collectors a special treat this year. The multi-level embossing on this stamp makes the ammonite look even more realistic. No collection is complete without this unique sheet. To obtain this exclusive item for your collection, order it today using the enclosed order form, online at postshop.ch, or by telephone on +41 (0)848 66 55 44. This miniature sheet is not available at post offices.
Please note that only a limited number of these sheets were produced so they will be available for sale only while stocks last! Subscribers will receive the miniature sheet with their subscription delivery.

than the pearly *nautilus*. We are also familiar with the anatomy of ammonites' jaws, know that they did not have ink sacs, that they are likely to have fed on small prey, and probably lived a largely hidden existence close to the sea floor. Many questions still remain unanswered, however. Did they have eight or ten tentacles, or perhaps up to 100 like the nautilus? Did their tentacles have suckers? Did the ammonites have powerful large eyes with lenses like living cephalopods?
There were a huge variety of ammonites. It is estimated that almost 20,000 different species of ammonite existed, although spread over a period of some 335 million years. There are ones with disc-shaped and spherical shells, smooth and ribbed shells, as well as ones adorned with spines and tubercles. Each of these numerous types of ammonite existed for only a short period of time. Ammonites therefore make excellent "index fossils" which can be used to date geological strata. On the basis of its characteristic ribs, the ammonite depicted on the stamp is probably a *Colombiceras*, a species of ammonite that lived during the Cretaceous period around 120 million years ago.

Walter Etter
Geoscience Curator
Basel Natural History Museum

Octopus resting on a coral reef.
Photo: iStockphoto

Miniature sheet **Ammonite**

Sales
Philately: From 26.2.2015 to 31.3.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: Not available

Validity
Unlimited from 5.3.2015

Printing
Offset printing, 4-colour and multi-level embossing;
Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein

Format
Stamp: Special format, outline in the shape of ammonite
Miniature sheet: 105×70 mm

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
14

Photograph
Christian Kitzmüller, Bülach (ZH)

First day cover motif
(blind embossing)

First-day cancellation

Rhine Falls

The **biggest** waterfall **in Europe**

700,000 litres of water per second, 23 metres high and 150 metres wide – these are the impressive dimensions of Europe's biggest waterfall. Whether enjoying breath-taking views from the rocks or a boat trip in the Rhine Falls basin, the sight of the Rhine Falls has fascinated young and old since time immemorial and is quite unforgettable. Every year the gigantic waterfalls attract thousands of national and international day trippers.

The turbulent history of the Rhine Falls

The Rhine Falls were formed around 15,000 years ago after the last ice age when meltwater gradually eroded the steep limestone flank.

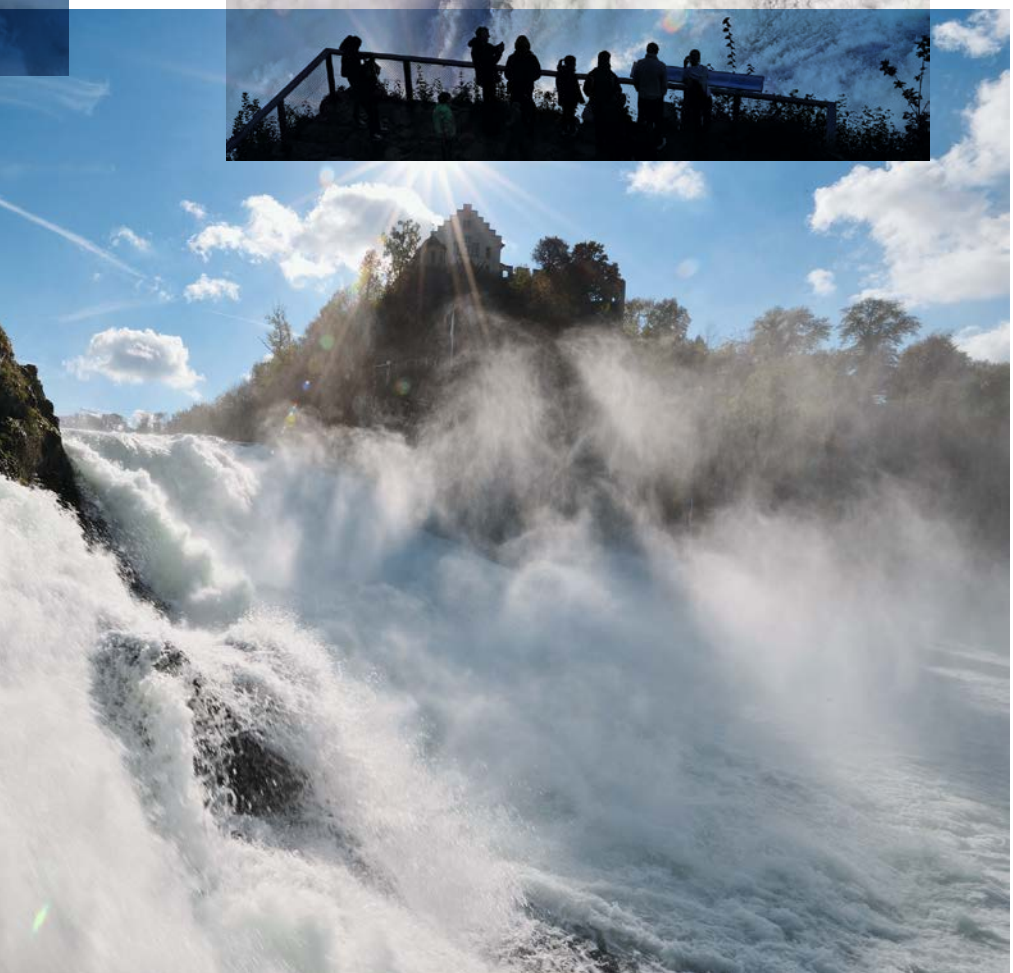
A small mill was already operating on the right bank of the Rhine Falls in the 11th century. This was quickly followed by blacksmith's forges and workshops. Around 400 years later, iron ore was being extracted at the falls and smelted into metal. In 1810, Johann Georg Neher acquired the works and expanded them to create the first significant industrial-scale ironworks at the Rhine Falls.

In the middle of the 19th century, the Swiss railway carriage factory "Schweizerische Waggons-Fabrik" (later called SIG) was founded in Neuhausen. One of the crucial factors for the establishment of the company was the use of hydroelectric power. Over a century later, most of the factory buildings beside the Rhine Falls basin were dismantled. Only the houses on the Laufen side and fire laboratory remained.

After the region became connected to the railway network, the hotels at the Rhine Falls experienced something of a boom period during the second half of the 19th century. Three large hotels surrounded by beautiful parkland were built near the Rhine Falls between 1844 and 1862. Guests could take a leisurely stroll through these parks to view the Rhine Falls. By the turn of the century, however, the decline of the Neuhausen hotel industry had already set in due to the rise of tourism in the Swiss mountain cantons, the industrial development of Neuhausen, as well as changes in travel habits generally.

Since 1983 the area around the Rhine Falls has been listed in the Federal Inventory of Landscapes and Natural Monuments of National Importance. Wörth Castle stands on the Neuhausen bank of the Rhine Falls basin. In Laufen on the Zurich side stands Laufen Castle, which is now used by a youth hostel. Spectacular viewing platforms can be accessed on well maintained paths on both sides of the Rhine.

Schaffhauserland Tourism



Magnificent natural spectacle in north Switzerland. Photos: Schaffhauserland Tourism

Special stamps
Rhine Falls

Sales
Philately: From 26.2.2015 to 31.3.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 5.3.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 5.3.2015

Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing La Loupe, France

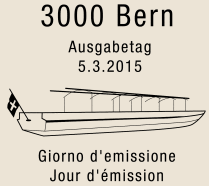
Sizes
Stamps: 104×37 mm
(37×37 mm, 35×37 mm, 32×37 mm)
Sheetlet: 134×215 mm (5 rows of 3 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
14:14

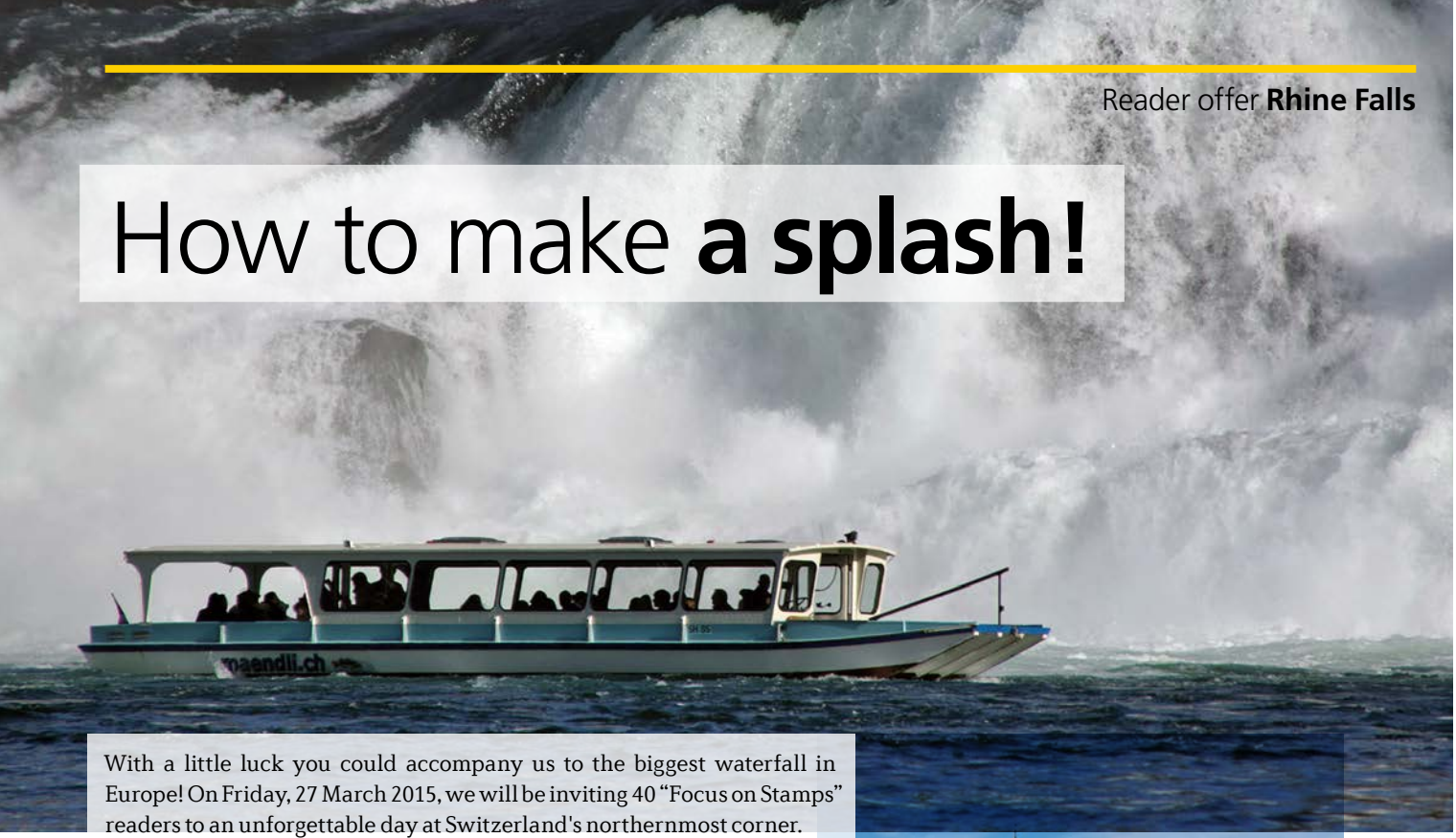
Design
Photography: Robert Bösch, Oberägeri (ZG)
Graphics editing: Prolith AG, Schönbühl (BE)

First day cover motif
(blind embossing)



First-day cancellation

How to make **a splash!**



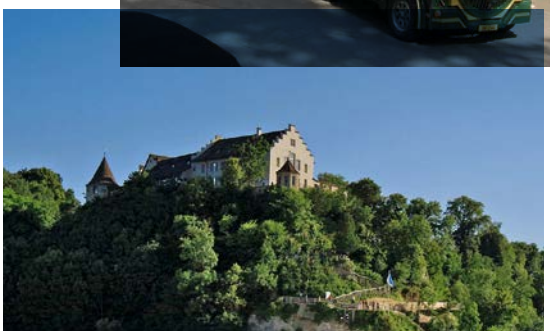
With a little luck you could accompany us to the biggest waterfall in Europe! On Friday, 27 March 2015, we will be inviting 40 "Focus on Stamps" readers to an unforgettable day at Switzerland's northernmost corner.

Programme

9.00 a.m.	Meet at Schaffhausen station Walk to the Munot fortress
9.30 a.m.	Coffee and croissants on the Munot battlements
10.00 a.m.	Tour of the Munot
11.00 a.m.	Vintage train to the Rhine Falls
12.00 noon	Lunch in Wörth Castle
2.00 p.m.	Boat ride to Rhine Falls
3.00 p.m.	Tour of the Rhine Falls and Laufen Castle
4.00 p.m.	Individual departures from Laufen station

Please note:

- 40 slips will be chosen at random from entries received by 16 February 2015 (date of postmark).
- One ticket per person will be allocated.
- Participants are responsible for arranging travel to Schaffhausen and for the return journey from Laufen.
- Please only apply if you are actually able to join us on 27 March 2015. It is not fair towards those who cannot take part if any tickets are wasted.
- Your health and level of fitness must enable you to take part in this active programme.
- The event will take place in German.



A little taster ... Photos: schaffhauserland.ch

Interested? If so, fill in the form and send it in right away!

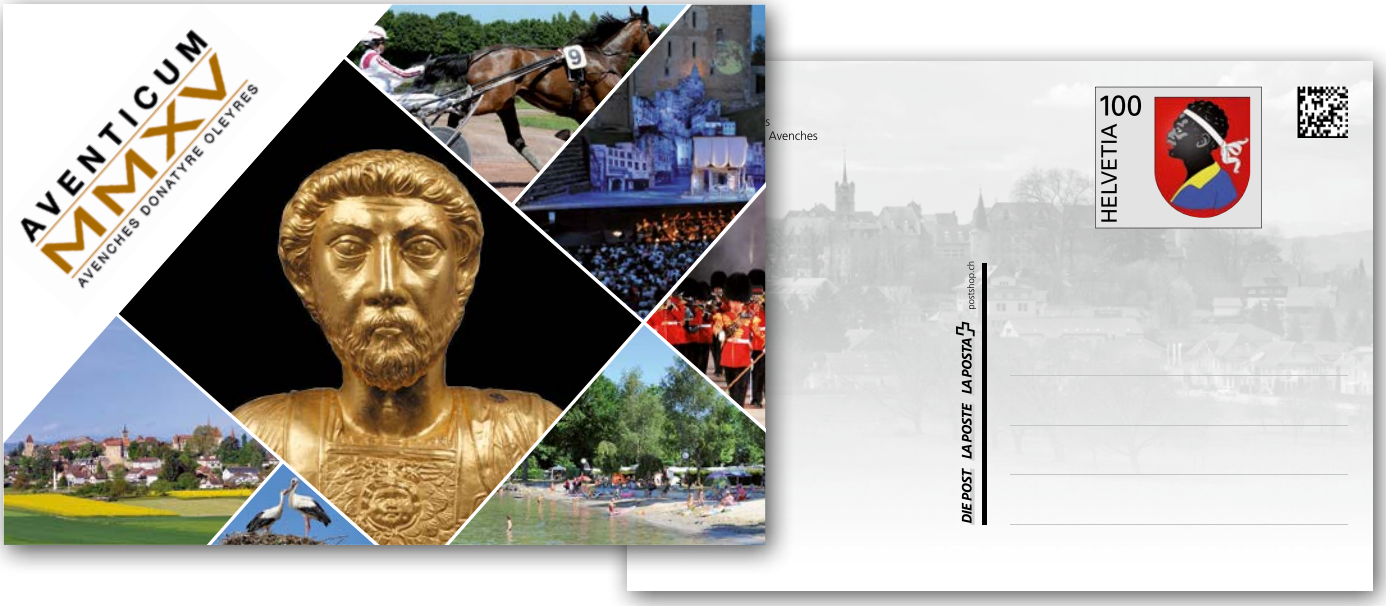
Customer number (if known)	
Last name	
First name	
Address	
Postcode/town	
Country	
E-mail address	

Subscriber Conditions

The deadline for entries is **16 February 2015** (date of the postmark). Only the winners will be notified in person. The judges' decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into. Employees of Post Offices & Sales, Swiss Post, and their families are not entitled to take part. Only one form may be submitted per person.

Send the coupon (or a copy) to:
Post CH Ltd, Post Offices & Sales, Editorial Team "Focus on Stamps"/PV7, quoting "Rheinfall", Viktoriastrasse 21, 3030 Berne

2000th anniversary of Avenches



After the armies of Julius Caesar had halted their advance at Bibracte in 58 B. C., the Helvetii were forced to settle on the central plateau again. Following the annexation of this region by the Romans, Aventicum was declared the capital of Helvetia in the year 15 B.C. Under the rule of Emperor Vespasian, the town was then raised to the status of a Roman colony around 71–72 A. D.

The Roman monuments, the remains of which largely lie buried beneath the modern town of Avenches, were erected after this date. Some remains have however been unearthed and restored: the East and West Gates, the Tornallaz tower (one of the 70 towers along the Roman city wall), the forum's thermal baths, the theatre, the Cigognier temple, the Grange-des-Dîmes temple and the amphitheatre. Avenches experienced its heyday in the 2nd and 3rd centuries A. D., when the town had over 20,000 inhabitants. It never quite managed to recover from the incursions of the Alemanni during the years 275–277. Avenches was the seat of a bishopric until the 6th century. The population living at the foot of the hill was protected by a fortress built on top of the ruins of the amphitheatre. Avenches came under Bernese domination from 1536, then in 1798 it became part of the canton of Fribourg, and finally in 1802 it was assigned to the canton of Vaud. Thanks to its summer festivals, the historical town centre, its lakeside location and picturesque setting, Avenches is still a well known attractive tourist destination. The Swiss National Stud Farm and National Riding Institute (IENA) are also a draw for many equestrian fans.

Martial Meystre
Director Avenches Tourism

The postcard will be officially presented by the Avenches municipality on 18 March 2015 in the Théâtre du Château in Avenches. Swiss Post will be represented on this occasion with a special post office and a special cancellation. The "Röstigraben" collection and a collection of postcards on the topic of "Avenches" will also be on display.

The special post office will be open as follows:

6.00 p.m. Opening of special post office/exhibition
7.30 p.m. Presentation of picture postcard
8.00 p.m. Drinks reception
9.00 p.m. End of the event

Picture postcard **2000th anniversary of Avenches**

Sales
Philately: From 26.2.2015 to 31.3.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: Not available

Validity
Unlimited from 5.3.2015

Printing
Offset printing

Sizes
Card: 148×105 mm
Stamp: 33×28 mm

Paper
White offset board, 235 gm²

Design
Martine Dietrich, Berne
Photographs: Marc-André Guex, Lausanne

Special cancellation

The **many facets of Switzerland** at Expo 2015

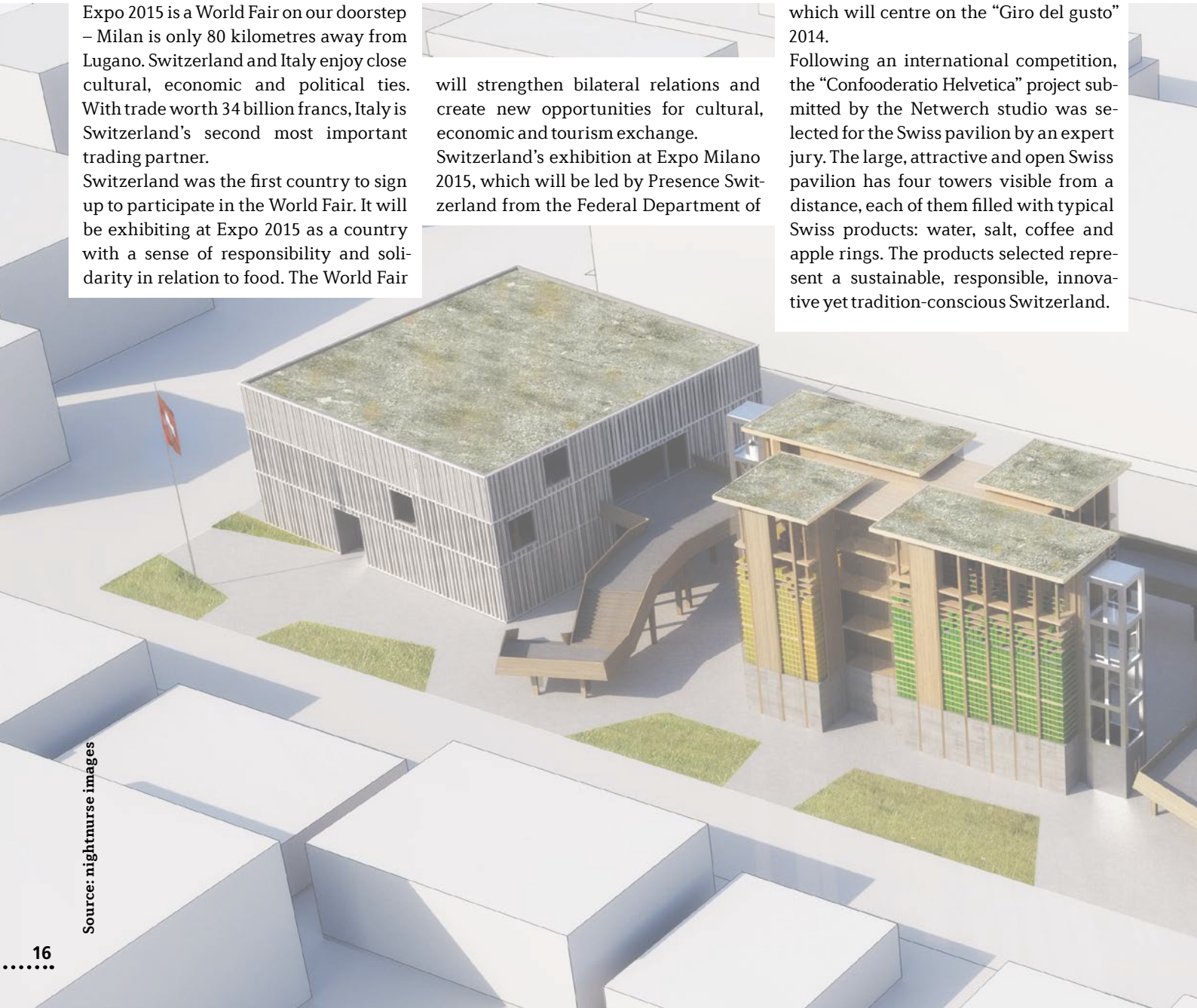
From 1 May through to 31 October 2015, the World Fair in Milan will explore the theme of "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life". According to the organizers, 130 countries, 10 international organizations and 30 sponsors will be participating. Approximately 20 million visitors are expected, including 2 million from Switzerland.

Expo 2015 is a World Fair on our doorstep – Milan is only 80 kilometres away from Lugano. Switzerland and Italy enjoy close cultural, economic and political ties. With trade worth 34 billion francs, Italy is Switzerland's second most important trading partner.

Switzerland was the first country to sign up to participate in the World Fair. It will be exhibiting at Expo 2015 as a country with a sense of responsibility and solidarity in relation to food. The World Fair will strengthen bilateral relations and create new opportunities for cultural, economic and tourism exchange.

Switzerland's exhibition at Expo Milano 2015, which will be led by Presence Switzerland from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), will focus on two key elements: Firstly, the Swiss pavilion for the six-month duration of the World Fair, and secondly, the "Verso l'Expo Milano 2015" communication programme which will centre on the "Giro del gusto" 2014.

Following an international competition, the "Confooderatio Helvetica" project submitted by the Netwerch studio was selected for the Swiss pavilion by an expert jury. The large, attractive and open Swiss pavilion has four towers visible from a distance, each of them filled with typical Swiss products: water, salt, coffee and apple rings. The products selected represent a sustainable, responsible, innovative yet tradition-conscious Switzerland.



Source: nightnurse images

Visitors will access the towers by lift and can then help themselves to the Swiss foodstuffs. As the towers gradually empty, the platforms supporting them will sink lower, thus changing the structure of the pavilion. The progressive emptying of the towers will be recorded in real time and can be followed via social media. Through this experience visitors will be prompted to think about their behaviour as consumers. The foodstuffs offered in the towers will be accompanied by messages. Once the exhibition has finished, the towers will be re-used as urban greenhouses.

The thematic exhibition around the towers will be developed jointly with specialist institutions. The Swiss pavilion is situated next to the Italian pavilion and consequently is in an ideal strategic position. The location also underlines the close relationship between the two countries.

Andrea Arcidiacono
Presence Switzerland, FDFA

Special stamp
Expo Milano 2015

Sales
Philately: From 26.2.2015 to 31.3.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 5.3.2015, while stocks last
Expo Milano 2015: From 1.5. to 31.10.2015

Validity
Unlimited from 5.3.2015

Printing
Offset printing, 4-colour and silver embossed; Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamp: 40×33 mm
Sheetlet: 192×95 mm (2 rows of 3 stamps)

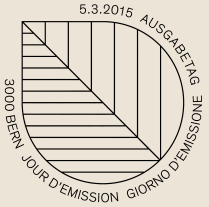
Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
12¾:13½

Design
Daniel Dreier and Nadine Wüthrich, Berne

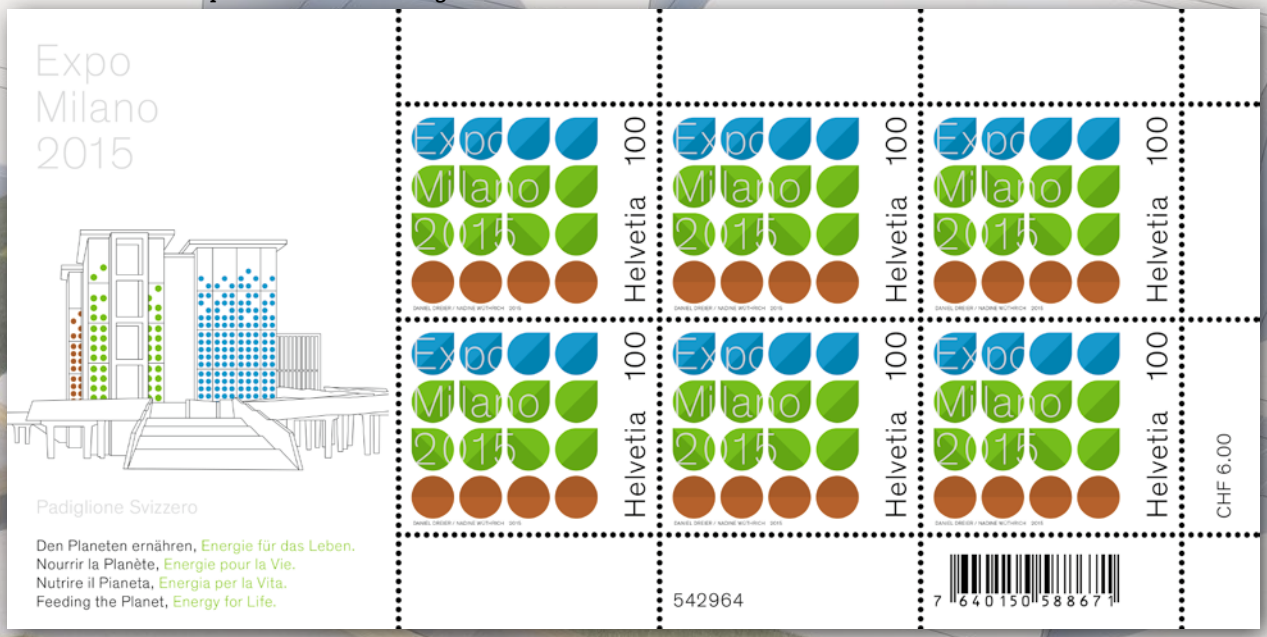
Padiglione Svizzero Expo Milano 2015
Den Planeten ernähren, Energie für das Leben.
Nourrir la Planète, Energie pour la Vie.
Nutrire il Pianeta, Energia per la Vita.
Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life.

First-day cover motif



First-day cancellation

A particularly stylish touch: the sparkling silver Expo Milano 2015 text elements on the stamps and on the sheet margin.



Experts at work, Roman excavations in Windisch. Photo: Federal Archive for Monument Preservation (FAMP)

No country without **heritage**

Although in federal Switzerland the cantons are responsible for heritage conservation, the Confederation also provides advice and support with the resources available to it. The oldest institution which the Confederation has for this purpose is the "Federal Commission for Monument Preservation" which commenced its work 100 years ago.

It's almost impossible to believe today: just over a hundred years ago, the Barfüsserkirche in Basel, the last remains of the Baroque city fortifications in Solothurn and the Königsfelden convent church with its world-famous medieval stained glass windows were actually threatened with demolition! Numerous valuable works of art and cultural heritage from Switzerland were being sold off abroad at the time. A private association – the Swiss Society for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage founded in 1880 (now the Society for Art History in Switzerland) – was able with considerable dedication to prevent the worst and succeeded in doing much that was positive. Among other things, it initiated and supported restoration projects and archaeological digs, and also encouraged research and communication. Thanks to the commitment of these concerned citizens, the Confederation decided in 1886 to help "preserve and acquire national cultural heritage". From 1887 to 1914, the management board of this "Preservation Society" acted as a committee of experts on behalf of the Confederation. That is the background up to 1914.

Experts in cultural heritage

In 1915 the Federal Council eventually appointed an independent experts' commission to take the lead role and assume technical responsibility for national conservation and archaeological matters at the federal level. Following the example of the pioneers, over the course of the next century this "Federal Commission for Monument Preservation" (FCMP) undertook invaluable work in the service of preserving our rich cultural heritage. As well as embodying the diversity of Swiss identity, this heritage is also a major factor in the attractiveness of our country for tourists, and is consequently of great economic importance. Hardly any can-

Historical photograph of a Mediaeval stained glass window in the former convent church of Königsfelden. Photo: FAMP

Historical photograph of Barfüsserplatz and Barfüsser Church in Basel. Photo: FAMP, Archive Photoglob-Wehrli

The stamp shows the stairs from the Martinsberg community centre in Baden and part of the murals on the roof vaults in the convent of St John in Müstair.

ton had an office devoted to monument preservation and archaeology until after World War Two. The services of modern conservation, which in Europe has become a discipline in its own right since the turn of the 20th century, have become increasingly sophisticated, and methods have also become more complex. Gone are the days when only churches and castles qualified as being of interest from a conservation point of view. We now also concern ourselves with less prominent buildings, with rural, industrial and technical structures, with townscapes and the areas surrounding monuments, as well as with parks and gardens. It is no less important – also for reasons of sustainability – to look after the valuable architectural testimony of our more recent past. The FCMP operates as an advisory body to the Confederation across this whole spectrum. It promotes practical and theoretical fundamental research and writes independent expert reports.

Prof. Nott Caviezel
President of the Federal Commission for Monument Preservation

Special stamp

Centenary of the Swiss Federal Commission for Monument Preservation (FCMP)

Sales
Philately: From 26.2.2015 to 31.3.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 5.3.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 5.3.2015

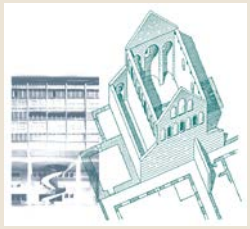
Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamp: 32.5×40 mm
Sheetlet: 162×190 mm (4 rows of 4 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13½:13¼

Design
Stephanie Häberli-Bachmann, Zurich

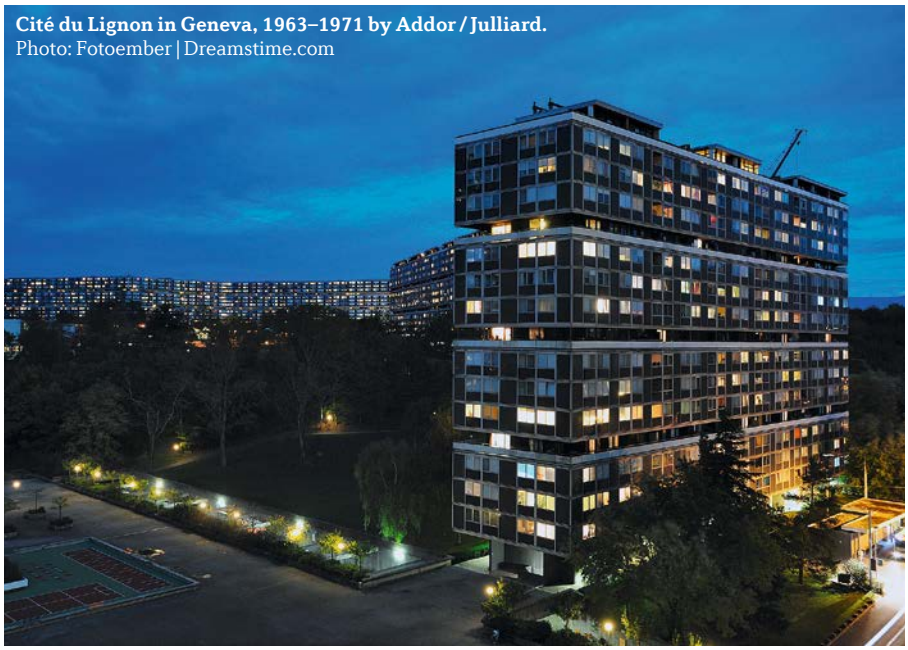


First-day cover motif

First-day cancellation

Historical photograph of the St. Ursen bastion in Solothurn. Photo: FAMP, Archive Photoglob-Wehrli

Cité du Lignon in Geneva, 1963–1971 by Addor / Julliard.
Photo: Fotoember | Dreamstime.com



Two **significant battles** for

2015 marks the 700th and 500th anniversaries respectively of the legendary Battle of Morgarten – a historic victory for the Confederation – and the Battle of Marignano – a decisive defeat. A good time then to shine a light on these two significant events in our history.

Marksmen in position during the annual Morgarten shooting championships. Photo: zvg

Special stamps
Historical events

Sales
Philately: From 26.2.2015 to 31.3.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 5.3.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 5.3.2015

Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamps: 40×32.5 mm
Sheetlet: 190×162 mm (4 rows of 4 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

Design
Rudolf Mirer, Obersaxen (GR)

First-day cover motif

First-day cancellation

Morgarten – symbol of freedom and independence

Only twenty years after the founding of the original Swiss confederacy on the Rütli meadow, the inhabitants of the three valley communities of Uri, Schwyz and Nidwalden were fed up with the servitude and repression suffered at the hands of foreign powers. Large tracts of land and estates were being administered under the religious authority of the abbeys purely out of self-interest. The desire for freedom and autonomy, "rather death than life in slavery" as the oath-brothers had pledged, grew ever stronger. This led in November 1315 to a confrontation in the Aegeri valley between a Habsburg army of knights and the subjugated confederate forces. In Schornen, beneath the slopes of the Figlenfluh, Duke Leopold of Austria led the foreign army into a fateful ambush set by the local inhabitants. They attacked the knights with rolling logs, rocks and halberds, pulled them from their horses and then in a terrible bloodbath slaughtered them with spiked maces. Many knights also drowned in the swamp at the end of the lake. The Habsburg defeat was crushing, while the victory for the confederates acted as a call to arms. Duke Leopold fled with his adjutants along the left bank of the lake towards Zug and on to Winterthur, where Johannes von Winterthur offered him shelter. Surprised by their success, the men and women from the proto-Switzerland were now inspired by a spirit of unity to fight for freedom. This fighting spirit in defence of independence then went on to make its mark on the history of the following 200 years. More and more cantons allied themselves with the original three valley communities to form the early Swiss confederacy. In numerous battles and skirmishes, this steadfast alliance went on to become a highly feared fighting force in European power struggles. The cry "Hütet euch am Morgarten!" (be on your guard at Morgarten) was a potent warning to all foreign generals and rulers, a symbol for freedom and independence.

John R. Hüssy
Vice-President Morgarten

the Confederation

Bataille de Marignan, 16th century tableau, attributed to Maître de la Ratière, Condé Chantilly Museum, France. Photo: Pro Marignano Foundation

The battle of Marignano

Owing to its political interest in its southern neighbours, the confederacy was often involved in the Italian campaigns around 1500. In the history of the old 13-canton confederacy, the Battle of Marignano of 1515, known in Italy as the "Battaglia dei Giganti", was one of the last great battles in which confederacy troops played a major role. Following their defeat by the French and the Venetian allies who had rushed to their aid, the Swiss withdrew to Milan in an orderly fashion. In military history the withdrawal of the Swiss army from Marignano is considered to be a well documented retreat. It was a key event that had an impact which resonates right through to present-day Switzerland. The end of Swiss participation in superpower politics was a significant step in the direction of establishing the future neutrality of Switzerland. Up until the 19th century, Swiss soldiers were highly sought after as mercenaries to fight in other people's wars, but the Swiss never again fought against another country for their own ends. Switzerland's neutrality was eventually codified as part of the Congress of Vienna during the Second Paris Peace Conference of 1815.

The 500th anniversary of the Battle of Marignano offers an opportunity to reflect on these historical events and consider how Switzerland evolved.

Roland Haudenschild
President Pro Marignano Foundation

Exhibitions on the topics
National Museum Zurich: 27.3.2015 until 28.6.2015 "1515 Marignano".
nationalmuseum.ch

Forum of Swiss History Schwyz: Interactive permanent exhibition "Switzerland in the Making".
forumschwyz.ch

Book about the historical event
Marignano 1515–2015 by Roland Haudenschild (ed.). **verlag-merker.ch**

Rudolf Mirer. Foto: Galerie Mirer

Combi-folder Historical events

The combi-folder is dedicated to the battles of Morgarten and Marignano.
It colourfully packages the current special stamps featuring these two historic events. The stamps and the combi-folder were designed by the well-known artist and poet Rudolf Mirer.
Born in Chur in 1937, today the artist lives in Obersaxen, and his fame extends far beyond the borders of his homeland. After studying applied arts, he worked as a creative designer for the textile industry before moving to Rome for some years, where he served in the Pontifical Swiss Guard.
Deeply impressed by the cultural riches of the Eternal City, he decided to become a painter. His work appeals to a broad range of art lovers who are attracted by his expressiveness and fascinating use of colour.

CHF 5.–

Taxes for Switzerland: **100 years of**

Head office of FTA from 1916: Bundesgasse 32.
Photo: Swiss Federal Archives

Ever since 1915, the Federal Tax Administration has collected the majority of the Confederation's income. It is also a leading driver for the standardization of taxes in Switzerland. Democratic legitimacy and moderate levels of taxation make our tax system sustainable and attractive when compared with other countries. On the occasion of its centenary year, we take a look at the origins of the FTA.

Spring 1915: Switzerland is a neutral island in the midst of war-torn Europe. Customs income has collapsed, while at the same time extraordinary costs amounting to billions of francs have arisen due to the mobilization of over 200,000 soldiers. The Confederation was forced to levy a direct tax for the first time, thereby creating an exception to the taxation principle introduced in 1848 that direct taxes on income and wealth should be the sole preserve of the cantons.

Democratic foundation

The founding stone for the Federal Tax Administration was a referendum: On 6 June 1915 the electorate voted with an overwhelming majority of 94 percent to introduce a one-off war tax. Just one month later the Federal Council appointed Hans Blau to manage the administration of war taxation in the then Department of Finance and Customs. With the assistance of two temporary officials, he was to supervise the introduction of this first war tax and its collection by the cantons. The son of a post office official, Blau later made a name for himself on account of his double taxation agreements with neighbouring countries, represented Switzerland at the League of Nations from 1923, and in 1929 became the chairman of the fiscal committee of the League of Nations.

Taxes as a result of war

The war tax proved to be only a drop in the ocean, however. Virtually every year the Federal Council was forced to introduce new taxes to cover running costs: September 1916 saw the introduction of a tax on war profits made by private companies, followed in 1918 by stamp duty. With the addition of these new duties, the war tax administration office was given its current name: the "Eidgenössische Steuerverwaltung" (Federal Tax Administration).

A second bundle of federal taxes followed during the Second World War. A fourfold increase in expenditure from 1938 to 1945 necessitated extraordinary measures

Special stamp **Centenary of the Swiss Federal Tax Administration (FTA)**

Sales
Philately: From 26.2.2015 to 31.3.2016, while stocks last
Post offices: From 5.3.2015, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 5.3.2015

Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamp: 28×33 mm
Sheetlet: 140×194 mm (5 rows of 4 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13½ :13¼

Design
Stephan Kuhn, Eglisau (ZH)

First-day cover motif

First-day cancellation

contributing to prosperity

Pioneer of federal taxes: In 1915 Hans Blau was appointed the first Director of the Federal Tax Administration. The son of a post office official, Blau shaped the image of the FTA for 23 years.

Faithful captain: Paul Amstutz took over the helm of the FTA in 1939. Prior to his retirement in 1952, this economist served a total of 36 years at the FTA. Photos: Swiss Business Archives

Present head office: Eigerstrasse 65.
Photo: Adrian Moser

to raise income: in 1940 it was decided to institute a second war profits tax for the years 1939 to 1946. Further taxes were then introduced in rapid succession – in 1940 the defence tax, the equalization tax, the sales tax and a tax on luxuries, followed finally by the withholding tax in 1944.

Foundations of the post-war era

This laid the foundations for the activity of the FTA in collecting and supervising federal taxes during the post-war era. In tandem with its new duties, the number of employees rose from 90 in 1939 to 700 by 1947. The then Director Paul Amstutz wrote in a guide for new entrants: "War brought rapid development. New employees may perhaps not immediately find their feet in such a large organization." With his call for reasonableness and citizen-friendliness, he laid the foundations for a modern corporate culture which is still in effect today: "Remember that every professional specialization brings with it the risk of atrophying and loss of perspective. You should therefore strive to free yourself of routine, formalism and blinkered thinking."

Esther Schönenberger Bloch
FTA Centenary Project Manager

1915 – 2015: A centenary for everyone

One of the ways in which the Federal Tax Administration is celebrating its centenary is with a special postage stamp. This is intended to thank and express FTA's appreciation to all the citizens of Switzerland for their important contribution to the prosperity of our country. Without the income from federal taxes, the Confederation would be unable to deliver central services, for example in the areas of security, education and transport. To celebrate its anniversary, the FTA will be taking part in the Berne Museum Night and will be providing information about its role and its history on the Internet under the heading "Jubiläum". **estv.admin.ch**

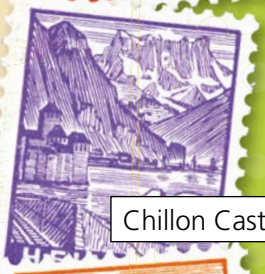
FRED&FUN

A bit of Stamp history

100 years ago, demand for stamps was constantly growing and new stamps were issued regularly. In 1934, a series of Swiss landscape stamps was issued. The stamps depicted sights which still attract many tourists today.

The landscape stamps were made using the letterpress printing method. Letterpress printing is like stamping. Therefore, the designs cannot include very fine lines. So the designer reduced them to the essentials and does not show any details.

Gotthard railway


Chillon Castle

Rhone Glacier

Viamala Gorge

Rhine Falls

Pilatus

FTA – Swiss Federal Tax Administration

What are taxes?

We pay taxes so that we can ensure that the lives of everyone in Switzerland are well organized. Taxes are used to build roads, pay teachers, equip hospitals and much more.

Why do we pay taxes?

Nowadays, grown-ups pay taxes based on their income and wealth. We also pay tax when we buy something, which is called value added tax, or VAT. But there are also taxes for many other things: dog tax, entertainment tax for sporting and cultural events, tobacco tax for smokers, petrol tax, inheritance tax, and so on.

Did you know?

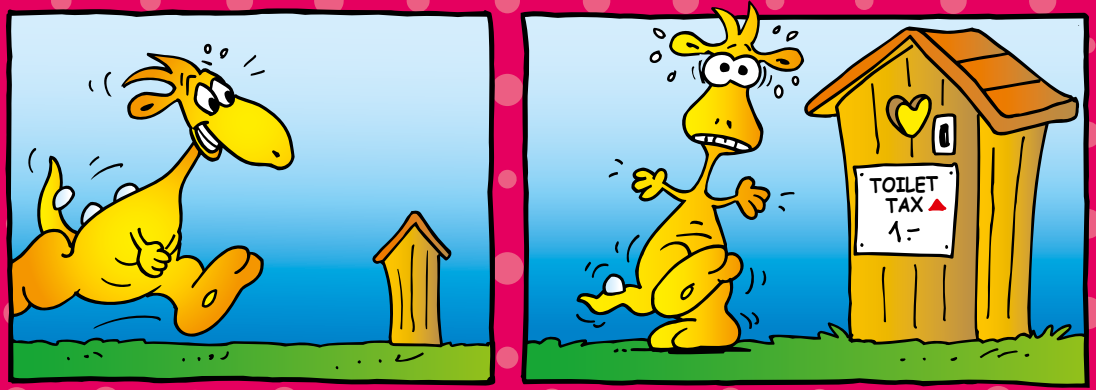
The ancient Romans had to pay a toilet tax, and in Russia there used to be a tax for men with beards.

How well do you know the 5 franc coin?

Here is a picture of the reverse of a 5 franc coin. Can you find the six mistakes? If you need help, then compare it with a real 5 franc coin.

You will find the solution on the last page.

Fred and the toilet tax



MONUMENT PRESERVATION

What is a monument?

A monument is a well-preserved building or work of art. It bears witness to past times.

What does the monument preservation office do?

The monument preservation office has the task of preserving important buildings. It provides money and expertise to help renovate historic monuments, and advises their owners. If beautiful old buildings are preserved rather than simply knocked down, people in the future will still be able to see how their ancestors used to live.

The new stamp shows the Martinsberg community centre in Baden on the right, and the Abbey of Saint John in Val Müstair on the left.

You will find the solution on the last page.

Swiss monuments puzzle

Here's a challenge for you. Do you know much about Swiss monuments?
Which picture goes with which monument?

1. Chapel Bridge in Lucerne
2. St. Ursus Cathedral in Solothurn
3. Palais des Nations in Geneva
4. Zurich main station
5. Devil's Bridge in the Schöllenen Gorge
6. Parliament Building in Berne

BATTLES

MORGARTEN AND MARIGNANO

This year is the 700th year since the Battle of Morgarten and 500 years since the Battle of Marignano. Two stamps are being issued to mark these anniversaries.

Morgarten

At the Battle of Morgarten the Swiss confederates of Uri, Schwyz and Unterwalden fought together against the Habsburgs. The confederates were victorious. However, it is still disputed today whether the Battle of Morgarten actually took place.

Marignano

The Swiss suffered a bitter defeat against France at Marignano, near Milan in Italy. This marked the end of the Swiss military campaigns to conquer new territories. France and Switzerland then agreed an eternal peace.
Today, Marignano is considered to be the start of Swiss neutrality.

From chainmail shirts to plate armour

On the stamps you will see some armed warriors. They also used to wear chainmail shirts. But these were expensive to make and only wealthy knights could afford them. What's more, they didn't offer that much protection. They soon started using mainly plate armour which could be adjusted to suit the shape of the wearer.
Sometimes the animals on the battlefield also wore protective armour, even dogs.

Puzzle

Match the parts to the correct number:

Helmet no. _____

Spurs no. _____

Breastplate no. _____

Visor no. _____

Gloves no. _____

Undergarment no. _____

Shoes no. _____

Knee piece no. _____

Shin guards no. _____

Eye slit no. _____

Bevor (neck protector) no. _____

You will find the solution on the last page.

OFFER

Collection booklet

Four times a year, many new stamps come out on around 20 topics. The most interesting subjects for children are explained and illustrated in the FRED&FUN collection booklet.
It is available while stocks last from postshop.ch (enter "Collection booklet" in the Search field) or by phone on: +41 (0)848 66 55 44.

How to obtain them
Each "Focus on stamps" stamp magazine comes with an order form. Your parents can use it to order the collection booklet and stamps. Alternatively they can phone +41 (0)848 66 55 44.
Or you can go to a philatelic salespoint in the Post offices in 4002 Basel, 3008 Berne, 1000 Lausanne, 6900 Lugano, 9001 St. Gallen or 8022 Zurich.

If you have any questions or would like to get in touch with Fred, send an e-mail to: fred@post.ch

Solutions

Page 1
Page 3
Helmet: 8
Spurs: 2
Breastplate: 3
Visor: 1
Gloves: 4
Undergarment: 5
Shoes: 10
Knee piece: 6
Shin guards: 7
Eye slit: 9
Bevor (neck protector): 11
Page 4
1B, 2C, 3A
Page 2
1A, 2C, 3D, 4E, 5F, 6B

AMMONITE

Ammonites are cephalopods which lived in the sea millions of years ago. They are now extinct and can only be found as fossils.

Ammonites are related to nautiluses, which today still live in tropical seas at a depth of at least 150 metres. Nautiluses not only make popular souvenirs, some people also eat them.

Ammonites and nautiluses are both molluscs. Molluscs are found in the sea and on land. They all have a shell on the outside, which is a kind of outer skeleton. They live inside the shell.

Look at the different spiral shells. Which shell belongs to which creature?

1. Snail
2. Nautilus
3. Ammonite

Puzzle

2015 events calendar

Month	Key	Date	Town	Occasion
March	**A**	**5.3.**		**Issue date**
	SP	18.3.	Avenches	Community event
	L	27.3.		Focus on Stamps 2/2015: The philately magazine
April	Sts	13.4.	Zurich	Sechseläuten
May	**A**	**7.5.**		**Issue date**
	M	7.5.–9.5.	Essen	International Stamp Fair 2015
	M	13.5.–16.5.	London	EUROPHILEX
	SP	16.5.–17.5.	Fehraltorf	Aerophilately Days
July	L	24.7.		Focus on Stamps 3/2015: The philately magazine
August	Sts	1.8.	Berne	Federal holiday
September	**A**	**3.9.**		**Issue date**
	SP	22.9.	Saint-Maurice	Monastic market
October	L	2.10.		Focus on Stamps 4/2015: The philately magazine
	M	29.10.–31.10.	Sindelfingen	International Stamp Show
November	VKSt	7.11.–8.11.	Basel	Mubaphil
	M	5.11.–8.11.	Paris	68th Autumn Philatelic Exhibition
	M	**12.11.**		**Issue date**
	M	21.11.–23.11	Verona	Veronafil 2015
	SP	26.11.	Bulle	Stamp Day 2015
	SP	29.11.	Wienacht-Tobel	Christmas fair
December	M	4.12.–5.12.	Vienna	NUMIPHIL15
	SP	10.12.–16.12.	Bern-Bethlehem	Christmas post office

Key

A	Issue date for stamps/ postal stationery
L	Focus on Stamps (stamps magazine)
M	Fair/Exhibition
SP	Special post office
Sts	Cancellation service
VKSt	Sales stand

Corrigenda for Focus on Stamps 4/14

In Focus on Stamps 4/14 we presented the new Pro Juventute business sheet. This product aims to ensure that the perforations of the stamp booklet, business sheet and series are exactly the same. Unfortunately, this is not possible from a technical point of view. The stamp perforations still vary. The reason is that the so-called serpentine cut is used. If the stamps do not have a gutter, the result is a tête-bêche with a different perforation. Specifically, this means that stamp booklets/blocks of four and business sheets/series each have the same perforations. Thank you for your understanding.

Your opinion is important to us! Praise strengthens and gives pleasure – criticism helps us to grow: **lupe@post.ch**

Swiss Post's General Terms and Conditions of Business concerning the purchase of stamps and philatelic items form an integral part of individual orders and are tacitly accepted by each customer who sends an order.

These Terms and Conditions can be ordered by telephone (+41 [0]848 66 55 44) or by e-mail (stamps@post.ch). They are also available at www.swisspost.ch/agb/post-agb-phila.pdf

FSC www.fsc.org MIX Paper from responsible sources FSC® C005019

Publisher's details

"Focus on stamps" is a free magazine, published in English, German, French and Italian.

Published by

Post CH Ltd
Post Offices & Sales
Stamps & Philately
Viktoriastrasse 21
3030 Berne, Switzerland
- Editorial office: focusstamps@swisspost.ch

Total print run

120 000 copies

Customer Service

- Tel.: +41 (0)848 66 55 44
- Fax: +41 (0)58 667 62 68
- E-mail: stamps@swisspost.ch
- Website: www.swisspost.ch
- Shop: postshop.ch

"Focus on stamps" No. 1/2015

Copy deadline: 15.12.2014
Distribution: from 20.1.2015
Stamp issue: 5.3.2015

The newest stamp products

Order using the enclosed order form or at postshop.ch

Pets

CHF 0.85 Dog
CHF 1.00 Cat
CHF 1.40 Rabbit
CHF 1.90 Hamster

Special stamps
White stamp paper, self-adhesive

First day of issue 5.3.2015

Set
A024 150 ★
A024 550 ⊙ *CHF 5.15*

Set of blocks of four
A024 160 ★
A024 560 ⊙ *CHF 20.60*

Sheet of 20 stamps

0.85 Dog
A024 111 ★
A024 511 ⊙
CHF 17.00

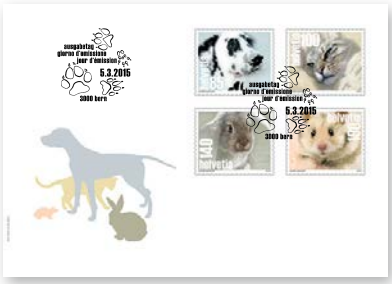
1.00 Cat
A024 112 ★
A024 512 ⊙
CHF 20.00

1.40 Rabbit
A024 113 ★
A024 513 ⊙
CHF 28.00

1.90 Hamster
A024 114 ★
A024 514 ⊙
CHF 38.00

Half sheet of 10 stamps

1.90 Hamster
A024 121 ★
A024 521 ⊙
CHF 19.00

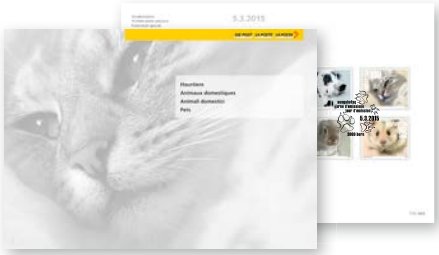


Set on first day cover C6
A024 580 ⊙ only *CHF 6.05*

Single stamp on first day cover C6
(4 covers)
A024 600 ⊙ only *CHF 8.75*

Block of four on first day cover C6
(4 covers)
A024 630 ⊙ only *CHF 24.20*

Unstamped cover C6
A024 700
CHF 0.90



Folder / collection sheet
A024 640 ★
A024 650 ⊙ *CHF 5.95*

Picture cards with stamps
Set of 4 A6 picture cards with the motifs "Dog", "Cat", "Rabbit" and "Hamster" plus 4 CHF 1.00 special stamps "Cat" (not affixed)
A024 911 ★ only *CHF 8.00*

The picture cards are not delivered as part of a standing order.

Key ★ = mint ⊙ = cancelled

1500th anniversary of the Abbey of Saint-Maurice

CHF 1.00 Ruin
CHF 1.00 Reliquary
CHF 1.00 Parchment and quill
CHF 1.00 Church window

Special stamps
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 5.3.2015

Set*
A023 150 ★
A023 550 ⊙ *CHF 4.00*

Set of blocks of four*
A023 160 ★
A023 560 ⊙ *CHF 16.00*

Sheetlet of 8 stamps**
Ruin/Reliquary
A023 311 ★
A023 351 ⊙ *CHF 8.00*

Sheetlet of 8 stamps**
Parchment and quill/church window
A023 312 ★
A023 352 ⊙ *CHF 8.00*

Set on first day cover C6
A023 580 ⊙ only *CHF 4.90*

Single stamp on first day cover C6
(4 covers)
A023 600 ⊙ only *CHF 7.60*

Block of four on first day cover C6
(4 covers)
A023 630 ⊙ only *CHF 19.60*

Sheetlet on first day cover C5
Ruin/Reliquary
A023 591 ⊙ only *CHF 9.20*

Sheetlet on first day cover C5
Parchment and quill/church window
A023 592 ⊙ only *CHF 9.20*

Set with one sheetlet each on first day cover C5
Ruin/reliquary and parchment and quill/church window
(2 covers)
A023 590 ⊙ only
CHF 18.40

Unstamped covers

C6 (162×114 mm)
A023 700
CHF 0.90

C5 (229×162 mm)
A023 701
CHF 1.20

Folder/collection sheet
A023 640 ★
A023 650 ⊙ *CHF 4.80*

*Single stamps/sets and blocks of four with the sheet's margin not available.

** The sheetlets each include 4 stamps with the motifs "Ruin" and "Reliquary" or "Parchment and quill" and "Church window"; not available separately.

Rhine Falls

CHF 1.00 Boat
CHF 1.00 Rhine rock
CHF 1.00 Laufen Castle

Special stamps
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 5.3.2015

Set*
A025 150 ★
A025 550 ⊙ *CHF 3.00*

Set of blocks of four
A025 160 ★
A025 560 ⊙ *CHF 8.00*

Sheet of 15 stamps**
A025 111 ★
A025 511 ⊙
CHF 15.00

Set on first day cover C6
A025 580 ⊙ only *CHF 3.90*

Single stamp on first day cover C6
(3 covers)
A025 600 ⊙ only *CHF 5.70*

Block of four on first day cover C6
(2 covers)
A025 630 ⊙ only *CHF 9.80*

Unstamped cover C6
A025 700
CHF 0.90

Folder / collection sheet*
A025 640 ★
A025 650 ⊙ *CHF 3.80*

* 3 se-tenant CHF 1.00 special stamps "Boat", "Rhine rock" and "Laufen Castle"

** The sheet comprises 5 horizontal rows of 3 se-tenant special stamps "Boat", "Rhine rock" and "Laufen Castle"; not available separately.

Important: Subscribers with a standing order for "Horizontal pair" will receive 1 pair with the left and 1 pair with the right margin.

2000th anniversary of Avenches

Postal stationery

First day of issue 5.3.2015

Picture postcard "2000th anniversary of Avenches", face value CHF 1.00 + 1.00 for the card
A031 841 ★
A031 846 ⊙ *CHF 2.00*

Ammonite

CHF 2.00

Miniature sheet
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 5.3.2015

Miniature sheet
A029 315 ★
A029 815 ⊙
CHF 2.00

Miniature sheet on first day cover E6
A029 580 ⊙ only *CHF 3.00*

Unstamped covers

C6 (162×114 mm)
A029 700
CHF 0.90

E6 (200×140 mm)
A029 701
CHF 1.00

Folder / collection sheet
A029 640 ★
A029 650 ⊙ *CHF 2.80*

Historical events

CHF 1.00 Morgarten 1315
CHF 1.00 Marignano 1515

Special stamps
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 5.3.2015

Set
A030 150 ★
A030 550 ⊙ *CHF 2.00*

Set of blocks of four
A030 160 ★
A030 560 ⊙ *CHF 8.00*

Sheet of 16 stamps

1.00 Morgarten
A030 111 ★
A030 511 ⊙
CHF 16.00

1.00 Marignano
A030 112 ★
A030 512 ⊙
CHF 16.00

Set on first day cover C6
A030 580 ⊙ only *CHF 2.90*

Single stamp on first day cover C6
(2 covers)
A030 600 ⊙ only *CHF 3.80*

Block of four on first day cover C6
(2 covers)
A030 630 ⊙ only *CHF 9.80*

Unstamped cover C6
A030 700
CHF 0.90

Folder / collection sheet
A030 640 ★
A030 650 ⊙ *CHF 2.80*

Combi-folder
The multilingual combi-folder (German/French/Italian) contains the two special stamps "Historical events" (CHF 1.00 each), cancelled with the relevant first-day of issue postmark.
A030 900 ⊙ only *CHF 5.00*

The combi-folder is not delivered as part of a standing order.

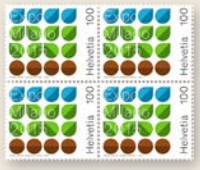
Expo Milano 2015

CHF 1.00

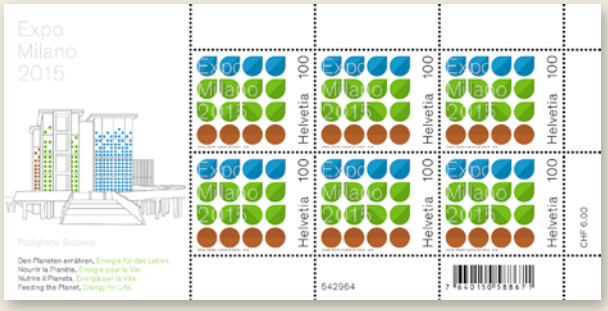
Special stamp
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 5.3.2015

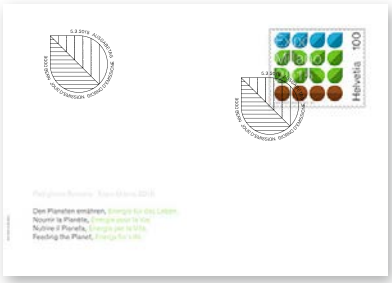
Single stamp
A028 150 ★
A028 550 ⊙
CHF 1.00



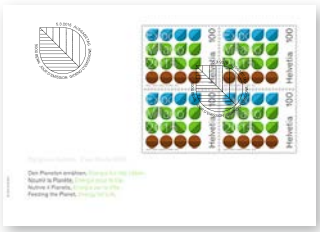
Block of four
A028 160 ★
A028 560 ⊙
CHF 4.00



Sheetlet of 6 stamps
A028 311 ★
A028 351 ⊙ *CHF 6.00*



Single stamp on first day cover C6
A028 580 ⊙ only *CHF 1.90*



Block of four on first day cover C6
A028 630 ⊙ only *CHF 4.90*

Sheetlet on first day cover C5
A028 590 ⊙ only *CHF 7.20*

Unstamped covers

C6 (162×114 mm)
A028 700
CHF 0.90

C5 (229×162 mm)
A028 701
CHF 1.20

Folder / collection sheet
A028 640 ★
A028 650 ⊙ *CHF 1.80*

Key ★ = mint ⊙ = cancelled

Centenary of the Swiss Federal Commission for Monument Preservation (FCMP)

CHF 1.00

Special stamp
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 5.3.2015

Single stamp
A027 150 ★
A027 550 ⊙
CHF 1.00

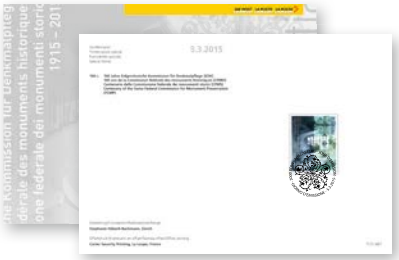
Block of four
A027 160 ★
A027 560 ⊙
CHF 4.00

Sheet of 16 stamps
A027 111 ★
A027 511 ⊙
CHF 16.00

Single stamp on first day cover C6
A027 580 ⊙ only *CHF 1.90*

Block of four on first day cover C6
A027 630 ⊙ only *CHF 4.90*

Unstamped cover C6
A027 700
CHF 0.90



Folder / collection sheet
A027 640 ★
A027 650 ⊙ *CHF 1.80*

Centenary of the Swiss Federal Tax Administration (FTA)

CHF 1.00

Special stamp
White stamp paper, mat gummed

First day of issue 5.3.2015

Single stamp
A026 150 ★
A026 550 ⊙
CHF 1.00

Block of four
A026 160 ★
A026 560 ⊙
CHF 4.00

Sheet of 20 stamps
A026 111 ★
A026 511 ⊙
CHF 20.00

Single stamp on first day cover C6
A026 580 ⊙ only *CHF 1.90*

Block of four on first day cover C6
A026 630 ⊙ only *CHF 4.90*

Unstamped cover C6
A026 700
CHF 0.90

Folder / collection sheet
A026 640 ★
A026 650 ⊙ *CHF 1.80*

International stamp exhibitions 2014

Exhibition cards
Year set with 7 A5 exhibition cards from the stamp fairs in Milan, Tokyo, Essen, Haldensleben, Sindelfingen, Paris and Verona
A016 450 ⊙ only *CHF 20.70*

Exhibition covers
Year set with 7 C6 exhibition covers from the stamp fairs in Milan, Tokyo, Essen, Haldensleben, Sindelfingen, Paris and Verona
A016 451 ⊙ only *CHF 20.70*

These articles are not delivered as part of a standing order.

FRED & FUN

2015 collection booklet
(see page 27)
English
1917 904
Free of charge

Annual and special products

Set of single stamps, 1/2015 edition
The single stamps/sets and the miniature sheet in the 1/2015 issue of 5.3.2015 are displayed on a free A5 backing card with a protective cellophane wrapping.
A021 150 ★
A021 550 ⊙
CHF 19.15

Set of first day covers, 1/2015 edition
The first day covers with set and miniature sheet in the 1/2015 issue of 5.3.2015 are combined in one free cover.
A021 580 ⊙ only
CHF 26.45

2014 year book of Swiss stamps
A008 830 ★
A008 831 ⊙ *CHF 66.00*

2014 year set
A009 320 ★
A009 820 ⊙
CHF 58.45

2014 year set of first day covers
A010 530 ⊙ only
CHF 80.25

Voucher for stamps and philatelic articles
871 399
CHF 15.00

2015 stamp catalogues

Zumstein Switzerland/ Liechtenstein/ UN Geneva
German/French
1998 725
CHF 35.00

Swiss Stamp Dealers Association Switzerland/Liechtenstein/UN Geneva
German/French
1998 787
CHF 37.00

The stamp catalogues will be delivered in Switzerland and Liechtenstein only.

2014 year book of Swiss stamps

100 Jahre Schweizerischer Nationalpark
100 anni Parc National Suisse
100 anni Parco Nazionale Svizzero
100 years Swiss National Park
6.3.2014

CHF 66.–

- 49 original stamps
- Information in four languages
- Richly illustrated motifs
- With exclusive black print

Order the year book now: tel. +41 (0)848 66 55 44
or via postshop.ch

SWISS POST

Yellow in motion.